

County Borough of Eastbourne



ANNUAL REPORT

For 1920 on the

Health of Eastbourne,

VITAL STATISTICS, SANITARY WORK, Etc.

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Diplomate in Public Health of Cambridge University.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

EASTBOURNE:

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Public Health Department, 1920.

SANITARY COMMITTEE, 1919-1920.

*Mr. Councillor HOLLINS, *Chairman*.

*Mr. Alderman ROWE, *Deputy-Chairman*.

**The Mayor* (Mr. Alderman DUKE, J.P.)

*Mr. Alderman BREACH.	Mr. Councillor BROWN.
*Alderman Sir CHARLES O'BRIEN	Mr. Councillor CAVE.
HARDING, J.P.	*Mr. Councillor CHAPMAN.
*Mr. Alderman MARTIN.	Mr. Councillor HODGSON.
Mr. Councillor ALCE.	Councillor Miss HUDSON.

*Members of the Hospitals Sub-Committee.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

Mr. Councillor HOLLINS, *Chairman*.

The Mayor (Mr. Alderman DUKE, J.P.)

Alderman Sir CHARLES O'BRIEN	Mr. Alderman SIMMONS.
HARDING, J.P.	Mr. Councillor ALCE.
Mr. Alderman ROWE.	Councillor Miss HUDSON.

Miss D. CHAMBERLAIN.	} <i>Co-opted Members.</i>
Mrs. PARRISS.	
Mrs. STREATFEILD.	

STAFF, 1920.

Medical Officer of Health :

W. G. WILLOUGHBY, M.D., Lond., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., etc.

Assistant M.O.H. :

E. H. B. COGHILL. L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.F.P.S.

Sanitary Inspectors :

E. G. SPEARS, Cert. S.I.

J. H. OLLETT, Cert. S.I., R.P.C.

S. R. HENDERSON, Cert. S.I.

Health Visitors, etc. :

Miss R. CLARK (1909).	Miss M. L. RICHNELL (1918).
Miss I. SIMMONS (1918).	Miss F. THURGOOD (1919).
Miss L. CURTIS (1920).	

Clerks :

H. T. HOUNSOM (Chief Clerk).	Miss M. SODDY (until Sept., 1920).
W. W. BROWN.	S. T. ALDERTON.

Disinfector, etc. : R. GAY.

County Borough of Eastbourne, 1920.

SITUATION.—Latitude, $50^{\circ} 46' N.$; Longitude, $0^{\circ} 17' E.$

ELEVATION OF THE AREA BUILT OVER.—Varies from 140 feet above (at the West End) to 4 feet below high water mark (in East of the Borough).

SLOPE.—From West to East. ASPECT.—South and South-East.

AREA.—Of the Borough, 6833 acres, including foreshore 332 acres ; of the part built over, about 2300 acres.

DENSITY OF POPULATION.—For the Borough, 8 persons per acre ; for the part built over, about 28.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES.—At census of 1891, 5,190 ; at Census of 1901, 7,088 ; at Census of 1911, 8,967 ; at end of 1920, estimate, 9,824, and 138 hut tenements.

POPULATION.—Census (1891), 34,960 ; Census (1901), 43,344 ; Jan. 24th, 1909, 49,286 ; Census (1911), 52,542. Estimated, 1914, 54,500. Estimated, 1920, 55,000 (50,574 by the Registrar General).

RATEABLE VALUE.—£477,029 5s.

GENERAL DISTRICT RATE, 4s. 1d. POOR RATE, 5s. 8d.
Total, 9s. 9d.

BIRTH-RATE.—17.9 per 1,000.

DEATH RATES.—Nett death-rate, 10.5 per 1,000 on Registrar General's population ; on estimate of 55,000, 9.6.

Nett Infantile Mortality, 59.8 per 1,000 births.

MEAN ANNUAL TEMPERATURE.—51.3 degrees Fahr.

HOURS OF BRIGHT SUNSHINE.—1,784 hours

TOTAL RAINFALL.—29.75 inches.

*To His Worship the Mayor and to the Aldermen and Councillors
of the County Borough of Eastbourne.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health I have the honour of submitting herewith my Twenty-seventh Annual Report on the Health of Eastbourne, including the Vital Statistics and the work of the Department for 1920.

The contents of the Report and their arrangement follow as strictly as possible the lines of the Memorandum issued by the Ministry.

The temporary rise in death-rates that occurred during the War has subsided.

The death-rate for 1920 was the second lowest recorded, and only a fraction above that of the best, that of 1914.

The infantile mortality rate is the third lowest recorded, and a very low one, while the birth-rate is the highest since the year 1908.

The death-rate from Consumption or Pulmonary Tuberculosis is by a long way the lowest recorded, and that from Infectious Diseases is also very low.

The Vital Statistics of the year are therefore very satisfactory.

From a Public Health point of view the inauguration in June of an Open-air School was a great measure of progress, and the principle could be extended with advantage.

The opening of the Maternity and Infant Hospital in March was also important, and the details of this branch of the work shown in this report indicate the large amount of effort now undertaken to try to give the population a better start in life.

The opening of some of the new municipal houses has been one of the most important events of the Public Health year.

Particulars are given in the Housing section of this report. There are still too great a number of families in one and two-roomed tenements. There are also 28 houses which should be closed as dwellings, at least, until reconstruction, and the remaining occupants of the Huts must be provided for sooner or later.

In spite of financial and other difficulties, it is therefore necessary that more houses should be built. A serious difficulty is that the persons referred to above are as a rule those that cannot afford to occupy, at an economic rent, houses built in the present day.

Various new and increased duties have been added to my Department, and I am much indebted to the members of my staff for their loyal and constant assistance. In the new members of the staff in 1920, Dr. H. E. Coghill, Assistant Medical Officer, and Mr. H. T. Hounsom, Chief of the Clerical Staff, the Council has secured very able and efficient officers. It was with much regret that I lost the very valuable services of Miss M. Soddy during the year on her promotion to important work in London.

I beg to thank you, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your constant kindness to me in the pursuance of my duties throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. G. WILLOUGHBY.

Medical Officer of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

THE Borough of Eastbourne, situated in Lat. $50^{\circ} 46'$ and Long. $0^{\circ} 17' E$, was incorporated in June, 1883. On April 1st, 1911, Hampden Park was added and the Borough became a County Borough.

The acreage is 6,833 ; of this 19 acres are inland water and 332 acres foreshore.

Only about one-third of the acreage is built over, the remainder is mainly Downs and agricultural land.

The Borough is situate on and at the foot of the Eastern slope of the South Downs. The highest point is 590 feet above sea level on the Downs ; the portion covered by houses varies from 150 feet above to 4 feet below sea level. The Downs shelter the town from the West and South-West.

The front of the town is open to the sea facing South and South-East, and this ensures a very large amount of sunshine, as is shown by the sunshine record.

One of the most satisfactory characteristics of Eastbourne is the large extent of the Borough compared with the number of its houses and population. The large extent and number of open spaces and gardens conduce to its healthiness.

With the large extent of free and open sea front along the South and South-East and the Downs on the South-West and West free and open to the public, Eastbourne is well provided with open space around it.

GEOLOGY.

Geologically, there is much variation in the soil in the different parts of the Borough. Eastbourne is for the greater part on chalk, which is a very healthy sub-soil. There is a comparatively small amount of clay soil in the

central part of the town, and a strip of upper greensand, which is narrow along the Grand Parade and widens as it passes from West to East to about Bourne Street, where it narrows again until it ends about half-a-mile east of the Pier. The remainder of Eastbourne in the East is on alluvium and on the beach.

Of the Wards, Meads and St. Mary's are entirely on chalk, and Upperton almost entirely so. The Central and Eastern districts are to a small extent on chalk and greensand, but mainly on alluvium and shingle, with a little clay. Valley gravel covers the chalk and greensand in the valleys.

Hampden Park is on the alluvium just at the termination of the chalk.

METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE.

Full details, and comparative tables, of the Meteorology of Eastbourne are given in the Annual Meteorological Report. Readings have to be taken every day throughout the year in all weathers, at 9 a.m., 6 p.m., and 9 p.m., and this work is heavy, independently of the mathematical and clerical part of the duties. Eastbourne is a special Meteorological Station, and the department is kept in accord with the wishes of the Meteorological Office in London.

A daily telegram (including Sundays) at 6 p.m., conveys information to the Meteorological Office.

The Instruments in use are :—

1. Sunshine Recorder at the Grand Hotel.
2. Rain Gauge, Carlisle Road enclosure.
3. Barometer at the Grand Parade Shelters.
4. Thermometers, Maximum, Minimum, Wet and Dry Bulb, in Screen, Earth (1ft. and 4ft.), Grass Minimum, Carlisle Road enclosure.
5. Sea Thermometer, the Pier.

We are obliged to the Compton Estate and to the Grand Hotel and Eastbourne Pier Companies for kind permission to use their premises.

Summary for the year 1920 :—

Rainfall, 29.75 inches.

Number of days on which 0.01 or more rain fell, 172.

Highest recorded barometric reading, 30.71 inches on March 3rd.

Lowest ditto, 28.73 on March 14th.

Highest recorded temperature in the shade, 73 degrees on August 14th.

Lowest ditto, 25 degrees on January 7th.

Total amount of sunshine, 1,784 hours.

Number of sunless days, 56.

Mean annual temperature, 51.3 degrees.

The proximity of the sea and the peninsular position of the Borough ensure equability of climate.

RAINFALL.

The rainfall for the year was 29.75 inches. Rain fell on 172 days. The rainfall was 0.99 inch less than the average.

Rainfall, 1919	31.52 inches.
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Average rainfall, 35 years, 1881–1915...	30.74	„
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Average rainfall, five years, 1893–1897...	32.18	„
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„	„	1898–1902...	25.94	„
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„	„	1903–1907...	29.99	„
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„	„	1908–1912...	33.76	„
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„	„	1913–1917...	33.86	„
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Year of lowest fall	...	1901, 20.19 inches.
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Year of highest fall	...	1912, 37.53 inches.
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SUNSHINE, 1920.

The amount of sunshine was 1,784 hours ; the average per day throughout the year was 4.87, or 0.01 below the average, the highest in the return of South Coast towns and the second highest for the United Kingdom. The average daily varied from 8.27 in May to 1.23 hours in December.

SEA TEMPERATURE, 1920.

The monthly average sea temperature at the Pier Head was as follows :—

Jan.	44°	May	54°	Sept.	59°
Feb.	44°	June	59°	Oct.	56°
Mar.	45°	July	62°	Nov.	50°
April	49°	Aug.	61°	Dec.	44°

POPULATION.

As 1921 is the Census year we are at the present moment at the greatest distance of time from a correct knowledge of the exact number of the population.

The number is more difficult to estimate than usually on account of war changes and housing difficulties.

The Registrar General has sent me the following estimates, viz. :—

For Birth-rates (Total) ...	...	50,574
For Death-rates (Civilian) ...	...	50,354

As I mentioned in my last report, there can be no doubt that the population exceeds these numbers, for there are more houses than there were at the last Census, when the population was 52,542, and the average number of persons in each, in the present state of over-crowding, is certainly not less than at the last Census.

I estimate mainly by the number of houses and their average number of occupants that the population is about 55,000 in number.

The Census figures will enable us to ascertain how the Eastbourne population is employed. At the last Census about one-eighth of the working male population was engaged in building and allied trades, and about 50 % of the working female population were domestic servants.

Calculating the proportions as to Sex, as shown by the 1911 Census, the Sex Constitution of the population is approximately as follows :—

Males	...	...	...	...	22,865
Females	...	...	...	...	32,135
					<hr/>
					55,000
					<hr/>

The estimated approximate Age Constitution is shown in the following table :—

Ages.			Males.	Females.	Total.
0—1	...	...	398	392	790
1—5	...	...	1805	1665	3470
5—15	...	...	4946	4686	9632
15—25	...	...	3991	6631	10622
25—65	...	...	10525	16775	27300
Over 65	...	...	1200	1986	3186
			<hr/> 22865 <hr/>	<hr/> 32135 <hr/>	<hr/> 55000 <hr/>

VITAL STATISTICS.

MARRIAGES.

There were 447 marriages registered in 1920. This is a marriage-rate of 16.2 per 1,000 on the population of 55,000, or of 17.6 on the population of 50,574, supplied by the Registrar General.

The average pre-war rate was 13.1 per 1,000. The highest recorded rate was 21.2 in the year 1915.

BIRTHS.

The births registered in Eastbourne in 1920 numbered 993, males 518, females 475. The mothers in 16 instances were temporarily out of Eastbourne at the time of birth, and on the other hand in 23 instances the mothers were temporary residents. Seven births have therefore to be deducted from the total of 993, leaving 986, males 516, females 470, as the corrected total.

This is the largest total recorded, but not the largest birth-rate. The births in recent years have been as follows :

Ten years, 1895-1904...	...	average	916
Ten years, 1905-1914...	...	average	879
1915	...	...	769
1916	...	...	803
1917	...	...	607
1918	...	...	673
1919	...	...	669

The excess of the number of births over that of deaths in 1920 was 456, in 1919 106, and in 1918 only 25, not including the deaths of those on service.

The birth-rate calculated on the Registrar General's estimate of the population was 19.5 per 1,000, as compared with 13.2 in 1919. On a population of 55,000, as I consider the proper number, the rate would be 17.9, as compared with 12.1 in 1919.

In recent years the highest birth-rate was 21.8 in 1895, and the lowest 12.1 in 1918 and in 1919.

The England and Wales Birth-rate for 1920 was 25.4 per 1,000.

Of the 986 births, 66 were illegitimate, or 1 in 15. 34 of these infants were males and 32 females. The highest proportion was in 1918, when 1 in 7.8 were illegitimate.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

Of the total births, 980, or 96.7% were at once notified to the Medical Officer. The omissions were accidental in all cases. 269 births were notified by midwives and 711 by parents and doctors. 16 still births were notified.

DEATHS.

There were 555 deaths registered in Eastbourne in 1920. Of these, 77 were deaths of visitors. Eastbourne residents, to the number of 52, died elsewhere during the year. Including the latter and excluding deaths of visitors, the nett deaths were as follows :—of males, 246 ; of females, 284 ; total, 530. These have been verified by the Registrar General.

The death-rate for the year 1920 was 10.5 per 1,000 on the Registrar General's estimate of population, and 9.6 per 1,000 on the population of 55,000.

The death-rates of previous years were :—

1895–1904	...	average	11.74	
1905–1914	...	average	10.58	
1915–1918	...	average	12.62	(War Years)
1919	...	...	10.23	

The death-rate in the war years was in reality higher still, for deaths of those on service are not included.

The total death-rate for England and Wales in 1920 was 12.4. The lowest rate for Eastbourne was 9.4 in 1914.

It is to be recorded that 1,056 Eastbourne service men and women gave their lives in the Great War, a number equivalent to about 2% of the total population.

SEX MORTALITY.

The 530 deaths of 1920 were divided as follows :—

		Deaths.	Death-rate.
Males	... ..	246	10.75 per 1,000
Females	... ..	284	7.20 per 1,000

The deaths of males were in excess in all chief classes of disease except Cancer and Apoplexy.

AGE MORTALITY.

The deaths in the various age groups were as follows :—

			Persons.	Rate.
Under 1	59	70.46
1—5	7	2.04
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Total under 5	66	15.49
5—15	16	1.66
15—25	18	1.69
25—65	170	6.22
Over 65	262	82.23

DEATHS OF VISITORS.

These numbered 77 ; males, 43 ; females, 34. The principal causes of death were :—

Tuberculosis	... ..	11
Cancer	... ..	10
Heart Disease	... ..	13
Apoplexy	... ..	8

DEATHS IN INSTITUTIONS.

	Residents.	Visitors.	Total.
Isolation Hospital	... 10	—	10
Princess Alice Memorial Hospital	... 32	13	45
Guardians' Institution	... 31	4	35
Leaf Hospital	... 6	2	8
Gildredge Hospital (Tuberculosis)	... 10	3	13
9 Upperton Road (Infants' Hospital)	... 9	—	9
All Saints' Convalescent Hospital	... —	2	2
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Total	... 98	24	122
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DEATHS OF EASTBOURNE PERSONS IN INSTITUTIONS
OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH.

East Sussex County Asylum	2
Brighton C. B. Mental Hospital	...	...	...	...	8
St. Columbas House, Hampstead	..	...	...	...	1
Steyning Union Infirmary	...	...	...	...	13
Chelsea Cancer Hospital	...	...	...	...	1
University College Hospital	...	...	...	...	1
Middlesex Hospital...	...	...	...	...	1
St. Monica's Home and Hospital, Brondesbury...	...	...	...	...	1
Stoke Park Colony	...	...	...	...	1
Borough Mental Hospital, Leicester	...	...	...	...	1
Tonbridge Infirmary	...	...	...	...	3
Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Westminster	...	...	...	...	1
St. Bartholomew's Hospital	...	...	...	...	1
Royal Berks Hospital, Reading	...	...	...	...	1
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	36

THE CAUSES OF DEATH.

The table in the appendix shows the principal causes of death in 1920 at various ages. Those diseases, etc., causing most deaths were as follows :—

	No.	Rate.	Chief Age Group.
Heart Disease	86	1.56	75—85
Cancer	76	1.38	65—75
Males	30	1.31	65—75
Females	46	1.43	65—75
Tuberculosis (all forms)	39	0.70	35—45
Pulmonary	31	0.56	35—45
Non-Pulmonary	8	0.14	0—2
Respiratory Diseases	50	0.90	55—65
Bronchitis	26	0.47	55—65
Pneumonia	17	0.30	45—55
Urinary Diseases...	17	0.30	75—85
Violence	25	0.45	45—55
Males	16	0.69	45—55
Females	9	0.27	45—55

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

These diseases caused 6.4 of the total deaths. This is a record for lowness, the previous lowest being 6.6 in 1912 and 1914. The largest was 24.0 in 1899.

The 34 deaths were caused by the following diseases :—

Scarlet Fever	...	2	Malaria	...	...	1
Influenza	...	19	Syphilis	...	...	1
Whooping Cough		3	Endocarditis	...		3
Diphtheria	...	2	Septicæmia	...		1
Diarrhœa	...	2				

The notable absentees from this list are Measles, Enteric Fever, Erysipelas, Puerperal Fever and Cerebro-Spinal Fever. There were no deaths from these diseases.

INQUESTS.

Coroners' inquests were held on 37 deaths.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The nett number of deaths of infants, that is of children under one year of age, was 59 (males, 33 ; females, 26).

Infantile mortality is calculated on the number of births in the same period and for 1920 was at the rate of 59.8 per 1,000 births. This is the third lowest recorded.

The following table compares this mortality with those of the previous ten years.

Year.	Deaths.	Mortality Rate.
1910	82	93
1911	92	106
1912	65	73
1913	60	69
1914	50	59
1915	76	98
1916	72	89
1917	54	88
1918	50	74
1919	39	57
Average of 10 years	64.0	80.6

In the closing years of the last Century, 1898, 1899 and 1900, the mortality rates were 139, 145 and 121 respectively.

The subjoined table shows the causes of death and the ages at death of the infants who died. The reduction in mortality of infants in recent years has been mainly of those in the later months of the first year. Ante-natal work is very important to stop the deaths in the first few days of life.

There were six deaths of illegitimate children. The comparative mortality rates of these and of legitimate children are as follows :—

Legitimate infants, mortality rate, 57.6 per 1,000 births.

Illegitimate infants, mortality rate, 90.9 per 1,000 births.

Throughout England and Wales the illegitimate rate is about double the legitimate.

The infant mortality rate for England and Wales in 1920 was 80 per 1,000 births, or 20 per 1,000 births more than that of Eastbourne.

The steps taken to prevent Infant Mortality are detailed in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of this report.

AGES AT DEATH.

Causes of Death.	Total.	Under 1 wk.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Under 1 mth.	1-3 mths.	3-5 mths.	6-8 mths.	9-11 mths.
Influenza	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Diarrhœa	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tubercular Meningitis ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Premature Birth	16	13	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
Congenital Defects	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Debility from Birth	11	4	—	1	1	1	—	4	—	—
Atelectasis	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Convulsions	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other Diseases N. System ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Broncho Pneumonia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Gastric Catarrh	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Stomach Diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Enteritis	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Intestinal Obstruction ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Diseases Lymphatic System ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Suffocation	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ill Defined	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not Certified	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	59	25	1	5	3	2	7	9	5	2

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Eastbourne water is supplied by the Eastbourne Water Company. Mr. A. Wilkins, the General Manager, has kindly given me the figures relating to the quantity used.

The water is obtained from a deep well with a long heading in the chalk at Friston. The well, heading, and pumping station are four miles from Eastbourne and situated in a gathering ground, which is very suitable for the purpose, and the object of continuous care.

The heading connected to the pumping station is at a great depth, being in no case less than about 100ft. from the surface. The water is pumped from Friston into distributing reservoirs in the immediate neighbourhood of Eastbourne, but it is not stored in any case for more than a day or two. The reservoirs are up-to-date and covered. The supply is constant and at full pressure all the year round, irrespective of rainfall.

There are subsidiary sources of supply at Holywell and Wannock. As far as quantity is concerned, very little water from any subsidiary source has been necessary. The amount in 1920 was under 24 million gallons. Owing to building operations at Wannock the water from that source will now be abandoned for domestic purposes.

Access to the sources is freely permitted to the Medical Officer, and my visits have satisfied me that every care is taken to prevent any accidental pollution.

For water from wells in chalk, the Eastbourne water has a comparatively small hardness, viz.: 20.1 parts per 100,000, or 14° "Clark." The permanent hardness is 4.3 parts per 100,000.

Analyses of the water have been made constantly during 1920, with special full reports once monthly, alternately by the Borough Analyst and the Company's Analyst. Partial analyses are made weekly. These are,

of course, important, but reliance is placed chiefly in keeping the sources unimpeachable. An example of the monthly report is attached.

For ordinary domestic purposes there is no need for any artificial softening of the Eastbourne water.

The amount of water pumped into Eastbourne for consumption from the various sources varied from $12\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons per week to 23 million gallons per week, the average amount being about $16\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons per week. This is approximately 35 gallons daily per person.

Former reports compared with this will show that the quantity and quality of the water remain practically the same year by year. It is very satisfactory to have a source so comparatively independent of variations in the amount of rainfall.

THE PUBLIC ANALYST'S LABORATORY,

85 QUEEN'S ROAD,

BRIGHTON,

SUSSEX.

Report upon a sample of water forwarded by Dr. Willoughby, Medical Officer of Health, Eastbourne, on November 16th, 1920 :—

Sample labelled :—"Eastbourne Water from the Main."

The water on arrival had the following characteristics :—

Colour	..	..	..	None.
Smell	..	..	..	None.
Sediment..	..	..	..	A mere trace of mineral matter.

Chemical Analysis afforded the following:—

		Grains per Gallon.	Parts per Million.
Total solids (dried at 100° C.)	.. ..	21.4	
Solids (after ignition)	.. ..	11.5	
Chlorine	.. ..	2.65	
Ammonia (free)	.. ..		.010
Ammonia (albuminoid)	.. ..		.033
Oxygen taken from permanganate in $\frac{1}{4}$ hr.		Nil	
Oxygen taken from permanganate in 4 hr.		Nil	
Nitrogen as Nitrates and Nitrites	..	.20	
Nitrites	.. ..	None	
Hardness (total)	.. ..	13.8	
Hardness (after boiling)	.. ..	5.2	
Phosphates	.. ..	Nil	
Metallic impurity	.. ..	Iron Trace	

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

The organisms per cubic centimetre which grew on nutrient gelatine in three days at room temperature under aerobic conditions, and were then visible to the naked eye as colonies, numbered 11.

On Agar at blood temperature under aerobic conditions 8 colonies were noticed.

Examination for organisms of the Coli group gave entirely negative results.

REPORT.

Both chemically and bacterially this water is very satisfactory. There is no evidence whatever of organic contamination, and in its present state the water is perfectly safe for drinking purposes and domestic use.

(Signed) S. ALLINSON WOODHEAD,
Public Analyst.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The Sewerage of Eastbourne is in the Department of the Borough Engineer.

The whole of the sewage, except some of that of the Infectious Diseases Hospital and some of the surface water, passes into the sea at Langney Point, some distance to the east of the Borough in Pevensey Bay. Owing to the levels of a portion of the Borough, the fall is only natural at low tide ; at high tide some of the sewage has to be lifted by the aid of Shone's Pneumatic Ejectors.

In two parts of the town the local sewage has to be raised to the level of the main sewers by pneumatic ejectors—viz., in Compton Street and Bourne Street. The system works very well.

The dangerous part of the Infectious Diseases Hospital sewage is cremated at the Hospital.

The water-carriage system is practically universal in Eastbourne, the few exceptions being in connection with agricultural buildings in outlying districts.

The sewer ventilation is by high upcast shafts ; all road level ventilators have been closed.

The system of intercepting traps between the house drains and the sewers is universal.

There are outfalls on the sea front for surface water.

Many houses are drained by means of iron drains in place of stone-ware.

The surface water system of St. Mary's and Upperton Districts has been radically altered, so that rain water shall not cause the sewerage system in the lower parts of the Borough to be overloaded. In this way the occasional flooding of some low-lying streets will be avoided. The work is not yet complete.

At the outfall, screening has been adopted with removal of solid matters.

SCAVENGING.

House refuse is collected by the Corporation, and is then burnt at the Destructor. The arrangements are made by the Borough Engineer.

Motor dust-vans have replaced the horsed-carts.

In nearly all houses moveable covered ashbins are the receptacles used.

One variety of offensive refuse is dealt with specially. Fish offal is particularly offensive, and has been removed daily by the Corporation from fishmongers' shops at a rather heavy cost, only partly refunded.

Unfortunately the cost of the removal of garden refuse is so great that free removal suspended in the course of the war is still only carried out when applied for and paid for. The cost of removal of house refuse during the past year was £10,725.

The collection is made once weekly all through the year with an incomplete second weekly collection during the summer months. Many larger premises have a more frequent periodical removal.

It is more important from a health point of view to have a second collection in the hot weather in small property, than in the large houses.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

The following table shows the number and nature of the Sanitary Inspections during 1920. Many other casual visits were also made :—

RETURN AS TO GENERAL VISITS BY INSPECTORS IN
ADDITION TO MANY CASUAL VISITS.

Visits for Inspection of:	East.	West.	Hampden Pk. St. Mary's.
Dwelling-houses	2031	821	189
Schools	17	89	24
Dairies, Cowsheds, etc.	345	546	242
Slaughter-houses and Butchers Shops	2449	1113	23
Bakehouses	208	103	12
Fruiterers, Fishmongers, etc. ...	2770	1057	56
Stable and other Premises	519	927	893
Factories, Workshops, and Work-places	551	930	942
Visits in connection with Notifications	783	108	50
Premises in which Drains have been Tested	316	239	71

The statutory notices served during the year were as shown below with the results. These notices were only served after verbal notice failed, hence only a small proportion of the total work is included.

	No. Issued.	No. com- plied with.	No. lapsed.	No. out- standing.
<i>a</i> Public Health Act, 1875— Section 91	225	191	—	34
<i>b</i> Public Health Act, 1875— Section 36	127	95	5	27
<i>c</i> Public Health Act, 1875— Section 46	33	29	—	4
<i>d</i> Public Health Act, 1875— Section 49	3	3	—	—
<i>e</i> Public Health Act, 1875— Section 41	22	7	—	15
Factory and Workshops Acts..	4	3	—	1
Housing & Town Planning Acts 1909 and 1919	104	60	4	40
Totals	518	388	9	121

a To abate nuisances of various descriptions, including over-crowding.

b To provide proper closets, dustbins, etc.

c To cleanse, disinfect, etc., houses.

d To remove offensive accumulations.

e To relay drains.

SANITARY CERTIFICATES—In connection with the Borough Sanitary Certificate the following work was done:—

New Certificates issued 13

Old Certificates endorsed after re-examination ... 26

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—There are 3 registered Common Lodging Houses in the Borough as follows:—

Langney Road for men.

Tower Street for men.

Latimer Road for women.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—There are four licensed Slaughter Houses, viz.:—The Crumbles Slaughter House, Upwick Slaughter House, Latimer Road Slaughter House, Bourne Street Slaughter House. The last named is rarely used, owing to the fact that much of the meat consumed in Eastbourne is slaughtered just over the Borough Boundary at Langney. Arrangements have been made by which

Messrs. Spears and Ollett inspect there also, nominally on behalf of the Rural District Council. Most of the unsound meat during 1920 was surrendered in connection with this outside inspection.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.—A very large proportion of the houses in Eastbourne come under this heading at some part of the year.

UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS.—Regulations in connection with the Housing and Town Planning Acts have been made as regards these, and action has been taken in various cases. Owing to overcrowding and so much sub-letting, the conditions are not altogether satisfactory in this respect.

SCHOOLS.—The various Elementary Schools have been inspected from time to time. There are 15 of these Schools with 29 departments. Particulars as to Infectious Diseases in the Schools are to be found in the School Medical Officer's Report.

BAKE-HOUSES.—There are 37 bake-houses in the Borough, of which 10 are underground.

PREMISES RECEIVING CONSTANT INSPECTION AND ATTENTION DURING THE YEAR.

Number of Bakehouses	...	...	...	37
Number of Cowsheds	...	...	...	9
Number of Farm Yards	...	...	...	13
Number of Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	82
Number of Private Stables	...	...	...	203
Number of Livery Stables...	...	...	...	12
Number of Piggeries	...	...	...	34
Number of Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	3
Number of Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	4
Number of Offensive Trades	...	...	...	5

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of Dairies on Register	...	...	23
Number of Cowsheds on Register	...	...	9
Number of Milkshops on Register	...	...	59

Infectious Diseases among Employees	...	1
Infectious Diseases on Premises	... ..	2
Notice to Abate Nuisance	... ..	3
Number Registered in 1920	... ..	13
Number removed from Register in 1920		25

RETURN AS TO STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS.

Drains examined and tested	... ..	219
Drains re-laid and amended	... ..	176
Interceptors fixed	... ..	38
Drain ventilation improved	... ..	56
New W.C. apparatus provided	... ..	183
W.C. apparatus repaired	... ..	302
W. C. flushing power improved	... ..	274
D-traps removed	... ..	3
New soil pipes fixed	... ..	70
Soil pipe ventilators enlarged	... ..	24
New main taps provided	... ..	57
Waste pipes trapped	... ..	194
Sanitary dustbins provided	... ..	479
Back yards paved or repaired	... ..	111
Sinks renewed or repaired	... ..	160
New sink wastes	... ..	199
Safes provided under W.C.	... ..	29
W.C. cisterns fixed	... ..	66
Cleansing of premises	... ..	550

In addition to the tabulated amendments above, considerable attention has been given to the general improvement of structural conditions, especially with a view to preventing dampness. In 283 cases general repairs were carried out. Roofs, windows and damp courses received special attention.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES,
AND HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries).	122	3	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries).	605	13	—
Workplaces	807	9	—
Total	1534	25	—

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness ...	30	30	—	—
Want of ventilation ...	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	1	1	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	2	2	—	—
Other nuisances	10	10	—	—
Sanitary accommodation insufficient.	18	8	—	—
Sanitary accommodation unsuitable or defective	15	15	—	—
Sanitary accommodation not separated for sexes.	5	5	—	—
Offences under the Factory & Workshop Act, excluding outwork.	1	1	—	—
Total	83	73	—	—

III.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.	
Underground Bake-houses (Sec. 101) :—		
In use during 1920 	10	
	No. of Lists.	No. of Workers.
Homework :—		
List of Outworkers received 	6	17
Workshops on the Register at end of 1920 ...	445	
Bake-houses on the Register at end of 1920 ...	37	
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	482	

FOOD.**(a) MILK SUPPLY.**

The arrangements for milk supply are entirely in private hands. There has not been a scarcity, but the price remained high, and thereby affected the quantity used.

The milk on the whole has been of very good quality. The following table shows the percentage of fats and solids in the samples taken for analysis, the presumptive standards for genuine milk being 3% and 8.5% respectively.

			Samples.	Average Fat.	Average Solids.
January	...	...	—	—	—
February	...	...	—	—	—
March	...	...	—	—	—
April	...	...	38	3.28	8.78
May	...	...	6	3.43	8.67
June	...	...	—	—	—
July	...	...	22	3.45	8.74
August	...	...	8	3.53	8.49
September	...	...	7	3.94	8.75
October	...	...	27	3.55	8.87
November	...	...	—	—	—
December	...	...	5	3.56	8.86

There were 15 adulterated samples, of which particulars will be found below.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912.

The following statement shows the steps taken under these Regulations :—

	Number of samples examined for the presence of a preservative.	Number in which a preservative was reported to be present.
Milk. . .	113	Nil.
Cream . .	5	2 .13% and .20% boric acid in each sample respectively. The vendors in these cases were cautioned as to the use of pre- servative.

CREAM SOLD AS PRESERVED CREAM.

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct ... Nil						
(b) Determinations made of milk fat in cream sold as preserved cream--						
(1) Above 35%	...	...	...	...	...	5
(2) Below 35%	...	...	...	...	...	-
Total						5
(c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in Article V. (1) and the proviso in Article 5 (2) of the Regulations have not been observed ... Nil						
(d) Particulars of each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with, and action taken ... Nil						

THICKENING SUBSTANCES.

Any evidence of their addition to cream or to preserved cream ... Nil

Milk (Mothers and Children) Act, 1918.—A review of the action taken will be found in the Maternity and Child Welfare section of this report.

(b) OTHER FOODS.

The two senior Sanitary Inspectors also acted as officers of the Food Control Committee until 30th June, 1920, hence the food inspection has been very complete. There is no public abattoir, and the Inspectors carry out the inspections in their own districts, and alternately inspect at some other slaughter houses while slaughtering is in progress. These other premises are four slaughter houses in the area of the Rural District Council adjoining the Borough. For this purpose the Inspectors are technically Inspectors of the Rural District Council, which pays a small fee. The meat slaughtered is practically all consumed within the Borough.

The surrenders and seizures of unsound food during the year were as follows :—

- 4 Cows.
- 2 Calves.
- 3 Forequarters Beef.
- 1 Hindquarter Beef.
- 42lbs. Buttock of Beef.
- 12lbs. Loin of Beef.
- 61½lbs. Beef.
- 113 Bullocks' Livers.
- 4 Bullocks' Heads.
- 14 Sheep.
- 6 Lambs.
- 50 Sheeps' Livers.
- 61 Sheeps' Kidneys.
- 8 Haunches Mutton.
- 7 Shoulders Mutton.
- 48lbs. Forequarter Mutton.
- 6 Legs Mutton.
- 2 Pigs.
- 2 Pigs. Livers
- 20½lbs. Tripe.
- 117lbs. Suet.
- 501¾lbs. Bacon.
- 7½lbs Sausages.
- 83¾lbs. Corned Beef.
- 12lbs. Brawn.
- 24 Rabbits.
- 196lbs. Wet Haddocks.
- 40 Boxes Kippers.
- 1,204lbs. Herrings.
- 4 Barrels Codfish.
- 536lbs. Codfish.
- 7 Pecks Shrimps.
- 36 Stones Whiting.
- 3cwt. Kippered Mackerel.
- 56lbs. Sprats.
- 20 Tins Sardines.

- 5 Tins Fish Paste.
- 19 Tins Salmon.
- 40 Dozen Escallops.
- 20lbs. Cheese.
- 132lbs. Butter.
- 886 Eggs.
- 154 Tins Condensed Milk.
- 3 Boxes Dates.
- 300lbs. Prunes.
- 1 Bushel Gooseberries.
- 24 Tins Fruit.
- 7 Tins Pineapple.
- 2 Tins Pears.
- 11 Tins Tomatoes.

Also Offals, Lungs, Skirt, Fat, etc.

SEIZED EXPOSED FOR SALE.

- 1 Rabbit—(See Legal Proceedings).

MEAT, ETC., AFFECTED BY TUBERCULOSIS.

- 3 Bullocks.
- 8 Cows.
- 26 Forequarters of Beef.
- 1 Side of Beef.
- 1 Hind Quarter of Beef.
- 27 Bullocks' Livers.
- 47 Bullocks' Lungs.
- 20 Bullocks' Heads.
- 5 Tongues.
- 1 Pig.

Also Offals, Skirt, Fat, Hearts, etc.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The number of samples taken for analysis and the result are shown in the following table.

Foodstuffs.	Sam- ples taken	Returned as	
		Genu- ine.	Adul- tera- ted.
New Milk	113	98	15
Skimmed Milk	2	2	—
Condensed Milk	7	7	—
Cream	4	2	2
Cream Preserved	5	5	—
Clotted Cream	1	1	—
Butter	14	14	—
Margarine	14	14	—
Lard	4	4	—
Honey	4	4	—
Jam	1	1	—
Sugar	3	3	—
Bloater Paste	1	1	—
Prawn Paste	1	1	—
Cake Flour	1	1	—
Egg Powder	3	3	—
Custard Powder	1	1	—
Golden Syrup	2	2	—
Cane Syrup	1	1	—
Syrup	1	1	—
Cocoa	2	2	—
Cocoa Essence	1	1	—
Coffee	3	3	—
Extract—Coffee and Chicory	1	1	—
Vinegar	1	1	—
Olive Oil	1	1	—
Lucca Oil	1	1	—
Pepper	3	3	—
Ground Ginger	3	3	—
Self Raising Flour	1	1	—
Sweet Spirit of Nitre	1	1	—
Compound Liquorice Powder	1	1	—
Tartaric Acid	1	1	—
Preserved Gooseberries	1	1	—
Ginger Wine	1	—	1
Sherry Wine	1	—	1
Brandy	1	1	—
Rum	3	3	—
Gin	2	2	—
Scotch Whiskey	3	3	—
Irish Whiskey	1	1	—
Total	216	197	19

The following table shows in what respect the samples returned as adulterated were not genuine and the proceedings taken in respect of the same :—

Sample.	In what respect not Genuine.	Action Taken.
New Milk ..	Contained only— 8.22% solids not fat	Vendor Prosecuted. Case dismissed.
New Milk ..	8.1% solids not fat	Vendor prosecuted. Case dismissed.
New Milk ..	8.34% solids not fat	Sample having undergone change interfering with analysis, no proceed- ings were taken.
New Milk ..	2.9% fat	Vendor cautioned.
New Milk ..	2.72% fat	Vendor prosecuted. Case withdrawn.
New Milk ..	2.82% fat	Vendor prosecuted. Case dismissed.
New Milk ..	2.95% fat	Vendor cautioned.
New Milk ..	2.92% fat	Vendor cautioned.
New Milk ..	2.90% fat	Vendor cautioned.
New Milk ..	2.96% fat	Subsequent samples were taken from this Vendor and found genuine.
New Milk ..	2.8% fat	Ditto.
New Milk ..	2.98% fat	Ditto.
New Milk ..	2.95% fat	Ditto.
New Milk ..	2.8% fat	Vendor prosecuted and fined £5 and 7/6 costs.
New Milk ..	2.85% fat	Vendor summoned, but case withdrawn on pay- ment of costs.
Cream (fresh)	Contained— 13% boric acid	Further samples taken and found genuine.
Cream (fresh)	.20% boric acid	Ditto.
Sherry Wine	1.58 gr. boric acid per pint	Vendor cautioned.
Ginger Wine	1.48 gr. salicylic acid per pint	Vendor cautioned.

In cases where the fat is deficient in small amounts, it has been found difficult to get a conviction. Hence proceedings are only taken in special cases, such as old offenders, and in other cases further samples are taken from the vendors.

In addition the following informal samples were taken,
viz. :—

Foodstuffs.	Sam- ples taken	Returned as		
		Genu- ine.	Adul- tera- ted	
New Milk	3	3	—	These were found to be coated with sulphate of copper and lime in quantities of .047 gr. sulphate of copper & .156 gr. lime, & .018 gr. sulphate of copper and .110 gr. lime per lb. respectively, probably as the result of spraying with Bordeaux Mixture. The wholesale and retail dealers were warned regarding their sale.
Butter	4	4	—	
Lard	1	1	—	
Jam	1	1	—	
Articus Preservative	1	1	—	
Apples	2	—	2	
Pills	1	1	—	

Legal Proceedings, 1920.

No.	Offence.	Date of Hearing.	Result.
		1920	
1	Selling milk deficient in solids not fat	May 21	Dismissed.
2	Selling milk deficient in solids not fat	May 21	Dismissed.
3	Selling milk deficient in fat	May 21	Dismissed.
4	Failing to comply with notice requiring amendment of certain sanitary defects	Nov. 12	Withdrawn on payment of costs.
5	Selling milk deficient in fat	Oct. 11	Fined £5 and 7/6 costs.
6	Selling milk deficient in fat	Nov. 8	Withdrawn on payment of costs.
7	Selling unsound food (rabbit)	Nov. 22	Fined £2 and £1 costs.
8	Selling milk deficient in fat	—	Summons withdrawn on payment of costs

The state of the law as to the selling of poor milk is so unsatisfactory that convictions are almost impossible to obtain and the public remains unprotected.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1920.

	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	No. Isolated.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	39	74	113	111	2
Diphtheria	29	49	78	75	3
Erysipelas	4	17	21	1	—
Malaria	18	2	20	—	1
Acute Primary Pneu- monia	3	2	5	—	1
Influenzal Pneumonia	7	5	12	3	4
Pneumonia	5	5	10	3	2
Puerperal Septicæmia	—	4	4	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1	1	1	—
Enteric	1	2	3	2	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	1	2	3	2	—
Ophthalmia Neona- torum	4	7	11	—	—
Totals	111	170	281	198	13

No case of Small Pox was notified. Many contacts were notified to the Department from the various Ports of the Kingdom and were watched until the close of the respective incubation periods.

The notifications of Tuberculosis are dealt with separately under that heading later in this report.

The following diseases were notifiable in 1920 :—

Under the Original Notification Act, 1889 :

Small Pox.

Cholera.

Diphtheria.

Erysipelas.

Plague.

Scarlet Fever.

Enteric Fever.

Typhus.

Continued Fever.

Relapsing Fever.

Puerperal Fever.

By Orders since :

Tuberculosis (all forms).	Influenzal Pneumonia.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Malaria.
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Dysentery.
Acute Poliomyelitis.	Trench Fever.
Encephalitis Lethargica.	Acute Pneumonia.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—TEN YEARS' AVERAGES.

NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS.

	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.		Enteric Fever.	
	Notifi- cations.	Deaths.	Notifi- cations.	Deaths.	Notifi- cations.	Deaths.
1919 ..	179	2	61	2	2	—
1918 ..	34	1	37	2	—	—
1917 ..	46	—	76	1	4	2
1916 ..	142	1	118	6	6	1
1915 ..	169	1	135	12	4	—
1914 ..	79	—	141	8	3	—
1913 ..	213	2	132	11	4	2
1912 ..	451	8	80	9	—	—
1911 ..	139	1	47	3	10	3
1910 ..	94	1	92	3	1	—
Totals	1546	17	919	57	34	8

Average for 10 years ..	154.6	1.7	91.9	5.7	3.4	.8
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SCARLET FEVER.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever was 113, or 41 below the average for the previous ten years. The month with the greatest number of cases, 20, was January. The disease did not occur in epidemic form; no cases were connected with milk supply or any particular school.

The fatality was less than 2%, there being two fatal cases. Two only of the patients were not isolated at the Borough Hospital.

DIPHTHERIA.

Of this disease, 78 cases were notified, of which 75 were isolated at the Borough Hospital. There were three deaths. The average of the preceding ten years were 92 cases and 5.7 deaths.

A series of four cases occurred in St. Andrew's Girls' School at the close of the year in one class. The Bacteriological result in the remainder of the class was negative in each case. No epidemic occurred.

Free Antitoxin is provided and can be obtained by day or night at the Police Stations. Very little use is made of this as practically all cases are removed to Hospital.

ERYSIPELAS.

Twenty-one cases occurred with no deaths.

MALARIA.

Twenty cases were notified, none of them indigenous. The affected persons had been in India, 10; Egypt, 1; Salonika, 5; and Mesopotamia, 4. On the marshes on the outskirts of the Borough, I have found Anopheline larvæ.

PNEUMONIA.

Ten cases were notified with two deaths amongst these ten. Cases of Pneumonia of the Influenza type are admitted to the Borough Isolation Hospital. The corresponding number in 1919 was 17.

PUERPERAL SEPTICÆMIA.

Four cases occurred, one only in the practice of a midwife. Enquiries failed to show any blame in her case. The necessary steps to prevent spread were taken, including stopping the midwife's practice temporarily. Three of the four patients were removed to Hospitals.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

One case was notified, removed to the Borough Hospital, and recovered.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Three cases were notified and all recovered.

1. Female, 48. Doubtful case. Local. A vague history of Shellfish.
2. Female, 22. Visitor.
3. Male, 17. Cause not traced.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.

Three cases were notified, two of which were isolated at the Borough Hospital. All recovered, but with remaining paralysis of limbs. They were a boy, aged 11, and two girls, aged $4\frac{1}{2}$ and 5 years respectively.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Eleven cases were notified as follows :—

4 Male. 7 Female.

5 Midwives cases.

LABORATORY WORK.

WATER.

Analyses by Borough Analyst including Bacteriological, 6.

Ditto by the Company's Analyst, 6.

Weekly by the Medical Officer of Health (partial only), 52.

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

	Positive.	Negative.	Doubtful.	Total.
Diphtheria for Practitioners ...	17	209	1	227
Diphtheria for Sanatorium ...	58	98	—	156
	—	—	—	—
	75	307	1	383
	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis for Practitioners	24	113	2	139
Tuberculosis—Pensions Cases...	15	149	1	165
Tuberculosis for Hospital ...	36	38	—	74
	—	—	—	—
	75	300	3	378
	—	—	—	—

Total bacteriological examinations, 761.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

No schools or classes had to be closed for infectious diseases during 1920.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

MEDICAL ATTENDANT.--Dr. W. G. Willoughby.

MATRON.—Miss M. G. Bailey.

TABLE OF ADMISSIONS, ETC., 1920

Disease.	In Hos- pital Jan. 1.	Ad- mitted.	Died.	Dis- charged.	In Hos- pital Dec. 31.
Scarlet Fever	61	115	4	164	8
Diphtheria	13	79	2	82	8
Syphilis	—	1	—	1	—
Influenza	—	2	—	2	—
Measles	—	27	—	27	—
Pneumonia	—	5	2	3	—
Influenzal Pneumonia	—	3	1	2	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1	—	1	—
Enteric	—	2	—	2	—
Quinsy	—	1	—	1	—
Erysipelas	—	1	—	—	1
Scabies	—	5	—	5	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	2	—	1	1
Chicken Pox	—	1	—	1	—
Tonsilitis	—	1	—	1	—
Basal Meningitis ..	—	1	1	—	—
Nil (mothers with in- fants or <i>vice versa</i> and observation cases)	—	7	—	5	2
Total	74	254	10	298	20

The number of admissions to the Isolation Hospital during 1920 was fewer by 85 than in the previous year.

The use of the Hospital was not, however, confined to the usual small number of diseases treated there, as will be seen by the table of admissions.

Altogether 254 patients were admitted, 99 males and 155 females. The following shows the number of admissions for each month of the year :—

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Other cases.	Total.
January	... 20	9	4	33
February	... 16	19	—	35
March	... 13	7	5	25
April ...	... 6	5	10	21
May ...	... 11	6	6	23
June ...	... 7	1	8	16
July ...	... 17	3	9	29
August	... 7	3	1	11
September	... 6	3	3	12
October	... 3	8	4	15
November	... 4	7	2	13
December	... 5	8	8	21
	—	—	—	—
Total	... 115	79	60	254
	—	—	—	—

All the cases of Scarlet Fever except two, and all except three of Diphtheria, that occurred in the Borough, were admitted to the Hospital.

The following service patients were admitted during the year, and are included in the above figures, viz. :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	3
Measles	...	...	2
			—
			6
			—

All these cases recovered.

The average time the recovered patients who completed their stay in hospital in 1920 remained in the hospital was as follows :—

				Days.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	38
Diphtheria	...	...	...	34
Measles	...	...	...	15
Pneumonia	...	...	...	15
Influenzal Pneumonia			...	19
Influenza	...	...	...	14
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	41
Syphilis	...	...	...	11
Quinsy	...	...	...	6
Encephalitis Lethargica			...	15
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	19
Tonsilitis	...	...	...	21
Scabies	...	...	...	11
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis			...	45

The Hospital was much used by service men and women throughout the War, a total of 448 having been treated there. The following is extracted from a letter from the War Office, dated 17th November, 1920 :—

“The Army Council are fully cognisant of the splendid work done by this Hospital for Military patients who were admitted during the Great War, and they take this opportunity of recording their thanks to the doctors, nurses and staff for the manner in which such work was carried out.”

LANGNEY HOSPITAL.

MEDICAL OFFICER.—Dr. W. G. Willoughby.

This Small Pox Hospital of 18 beds was kept in readiness, but not used, during the year. It was in the year 1902 that the last Small Pox case occurred.

ACACIA VILLA.

This Isolation Cottage and accommodation for persons whose houses were being disinfected was used by 25 persons in 1920.

COST OF THE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITALS.

THE SANATORIUM.

From April 1st, 1920, to March 31st, 1921, there were 7,324 “patient days.” Each patient cost £6 14s. per head per week. Deducting the income from patients, the cost was £6 5s.

The above includes capital charges ; omitting these, the gross cost was £5 11s. 6d. per head per week. The cost of foods for patients and staff amounted to 14/7 per head per week.

LANGNEY HOSPITAL.—Nett cost, £186.

ACACIA VILLA.—Nett cost, £85.

The total nett cost on the rates for these hospitals was £6,812.

NOTE.—These estimated costs are calculated on actual expenditure up to near the end of the period and the Accountant's Estimates for the remainder.

DISINFECTION.

The methods of disinfection employed are the same as in previous years.

For clothing, bedding, etc., Superheated steam (Temp. 260° F.) in a Washington Lyon Disinfecting Machine is used.

For articles such as furs, boots, etc., that will not stand superheated steam, washing with Formalin solution or Perchloride of Mercury solution is employed.

For rooms and houses, fumigation with Formalin Gas by means of various lamps is sometimes used, but more often and especially in Tuberculosis a sprayer is used for Formalin or other solution, such as Izal, McDougall's or Lawes' fluid.

Re-papering, re-painting, lime-washing and much soap and water cleansing after the irrigation or fumigation by the disinfectant gas are the methods chiefly relied on.

After Consumption, the usual form of disinfection carried out or suggested has been wet dusting by dusters wrung out of strong disinfectant, especially Formalin, Izal, etc., but general disinfection is done also. Disinfection after Cancer is also done on request being made, in the hope that it may be of some use in preventing spread.

The disinfection of infected houses or rooms is always done by the Sanitary Inspectors or one particular man in the Sanitary Department under their immediate instructions.

The schools have been disinfected by spraying from time to time.

The Steam Disinfector is situated in the Infectious Diseases Hospital grounds.

There is a second small disinfector for verminous clothing at the Children's Cleansing Station, Seaside.

VACCINATION RETURN FOR EASTBOURNE DISTRICT, including Returns due to Ministry of Health February, 1921.

E. J. HODGES, *Vaccination Officer.*

Year.	Births.	Successful Certificates Registered.	Certificates of Insuscep- tibility Registered.	Had Small Pox.	Certificates of Exemption Registered.	Deaths under one year old.	Postponed by Medical Certificate.	Removed out of town and gone, no address.	Cases of Prose- cution under Sec. 31.	Un- accounted for.	Total number of Certificates of Success- ful Primary Vaccination's at all ages received during each of last 14 years.
*1	*2	*3	*4	*5	*6	*7	*8	*9 & 10.		*11	*12
1906	995	310	—	—	359	73	31	67	—	155	280
1907	985	272	1	—	377	76	11	98	—	150	289
1908	1033	239	1	—	464	66	24	94	—	145	288
1909	977	195	4	—	438	68	14	102	4	152	214
1910	958	184	1	—	484	66	16	101	5	101	217
1911	948	157	—	—	550	69	24	101	8	39	236
1912	960	160	—	—	558	60	25	125	—	32	219
1913	930	156	1	—	549	50	12	111	—	51	289
1914	927	157	1	—	535	59	20	131	—	24	178
1915	832	158	—	—	467	71	15	95	—	26	179
1916	895	179	—	—	486	80	20	89	—	41	190
1917	703	153	—	—	390	61	12	86	—	1	190
1918	807	190	2	—	357	55	15	142	—	46	192
1919	750	163	—	—	440	35	8	89	—	15	250
1920	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	236

The number of certificates of con-
sious objection actually received by
Vaccination Officer irrespective of the
dates of birth of the children to which
they relate during year 1920 was 709.

The numbers marked thus (*) refer to columns in Official Returns to Local Government Board and Ministry of Health.

No primary or re-vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health in 1920 under the P.H. (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

CLINIC.—At the rear of the Town Hall. Opened 24th September, 1919. Medical Officer: Dr. J. Adams, F.R.C.S. Clinic Hours: Men, 5 p.m., Wednesdays; Women, 5 p.m., Mondays; special times by arrangement.

WORK, 1920 (figures in brackets those for 1919).—*Out-patients*.—Number of persons treated, 78 (81).

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Syphilis	... ..	9 (16)	16 (24)	25 (40)
Gonorrhœa	... ..	18 (12)	8 (8)	26 (20)
Both above	... ..	— —	1 (0)	1 (0)
Other conditions	... ..	13 (7)	14 (13)	27 (20)
Soft Chancre	... ..	— (1)	— —	— (1)
Total		40 (36)	39 (45)	79 (81)

Total attendances, 824 (681); males, 353 (322); females, 471 (359).

In addition to the above, two patients from the East Sussex District, suffering from Syphilis, attended the Clinic for the first time.

In-patients.—Number, three women, Lock Hospital, London, N.W.

Aggregate in-patient days, 241 (183).

Pathological Work:—Wasserman reaction, 125 (81), at the London Hospital and at the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine.

The Salvarsan substitute used was Galyl. This was used in about 90% of the Syphilis cases in initial doses of 30 cgms., and final doses of 40 cgms. Seven to nine doses were usually given, with concurrent intramuscular injections of mercury.

The treatment is continued for two years with two negative Wassermann tests during the last three months.

In Gonorrhœa, continuation of treatment is continued, if accepted, until no discharge has occurred for two months.

notwithstanding the patient living under ordinary conditions, especially as regards diet and stimulants.

There are no special irrigation facilities apart from the Clinic times, but these would be forthcoming if required. There seems no need for any modification of the arrangements. Facilities for disinfection are not provided as no necessity has apparently arisen.

Notices as to free treatment are posted in the various public lavatories, etc.

No medical practitioners have applied for free Salvarsan or substitutes, so that the question of qualification has not arisen, nor have these drugs been supplied. The Pathological examinations have been almost entirely through the Council's Medical Officer, but in six instances at the request of private practitioners.

No action has been taken under the Venereal Disease Act, 1917.

TUBERCULOSIS.

FATAL CASES.

This disease caused 38 deaths of Eastbourne persons in 1920. Pulmonary Tuberculosis—males, 16; females, 15; total, 31. Other forms of Tuberculosis—males, 6; females, 1; total, 7. These numbers are the smallest yet recorded for any year, and for “Consumption” no less than 17 below the average. The temporary increase during the War years has disappeared and the figures for 1920 are better than in any pre-war year.

The above are the nett deaths of Eastbourne persons. Of these, 4 died out of Eastbourne, and 9 visitors died here from Tuberculosis.

The death-rate from all forms of Tuberculosis was 0.69 per 1,000, and from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 0.56.

The deaths in the previous ten years were as follows :—

		1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Pulmonary	...	44	52	52	46	50	41	39	60	58	46
Other forms	...	7	13	12	19	7	15	15	8	12	12
Total	...	51	65	64	65	57	56	54	68	70	58

The average for the ten years was Pulmonary, 48.7; other forms, 12.0; total, 60.8.

The seven deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis were from tubercular affections of the meninges of brain, 5; pleura, 1; hip, 1.

NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1920.

While the deaths have been fewer, the notifications of new cases have been slightly more than in 1919, especially in the case of females.

Notifications are incomplete. Ex-service cases are sometimes not notified, and in 1920 ten of the deaths were of persons not previously notified as having Tuberculosis.

Notification figures include visitors.

In 1918, 122 cases, and in 1919, 79 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified.

1. PULMONARY CASES—85.

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Ages 0—1	...	—	—	—
Ages 1—5	...	—	—	—
Ages 5—10	...	1	2	3
Ages 10—15	...	—	1	1
Ages 15—20	...	2	4	6
Ages 20—25	...	4	8	12
Ages 25—35	...	13	19	32
Ages 35—45	...	5	8	13
Ages 45—55	...	4	7	11
Ages 55—65	...	3	2	5
Over 65	...	—	—	—
Not stated	...	1	1	2
		—	—	—
Total	...	33	52	85
		—	—	—

Of these 85, 1 male and 1 female had been previously notified.

2. NON-PULMONARY CASES—21 (two duplicate notifications).

Thirteen males were notified:—

Meningitis	...	...	4 aged 9, 7, 1 and 7 months
Dorsal Vertabræ	...	...	1 aged 6 (notified previously)
Finger	...	...	1 aged 4
Foot	...	...	1 aged 4
Peritonitis	...	...	1 aged 4 months
Glands	...	...	1 aged 4
Adenitis	...	...	1 aged 26
Peritoneum	...	...	1 aged 56
Kidneys and Bladder			1 aged 39 (notified twice)

Eight females were notified :—

Larynx	...	...	1 aged 28
Neck	...	...	1 aged 16
Glands	...	...	4 aged 32, 26, 13 and 12
Wrist and Hand	...	...	1 aged 40
Hip	...	...	1 aged 15½

The above were notified under Form A. (Medical Practitioners).

Nineteen cases were notified in 1919.

The following notifications were also received :—

Form B.—From the School Medical Officer :—

		Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
One Male	...	1	—
Two Females	...	2	—

(NOTE.—The male was also notified on Form A., and is included above).

Form C.—From Institutions (Admissions) :—

Lung Cases, 16 ; Larynx Case, 1 ; total, 17.

Form D.—From Institutions (Discharges) :—

Lung Cases, 16 ; Knee Case, 1 ; total, 17.

Notifications under Forms C. and D. are mainly duplications.

The total notifications of new cases in 1920 compare as follows with those of preceding years :—

PULMONARY—

		Males.	Females.	Total.
1920	...	33	53	86
1919	...	39	38	77
1918	...	52	70	122
1917	...	45	45	90
1916	...	41	44	85
1915	...	47	59	106

NON-PULMONARY—

1920	...	11	8	19
1919	...	7	12	19
1918	...	17	23	40
1917	...	3	11	14
1916	...	20	19	39
1915	...	17	5	22

BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

In the Laboratory, 378 examinations of sputum were made, 304 for diagnosis for practitioners and pension purposes of which the results were:—39 positive, 262 negative and 3 doubtful. For hospital purposes, 74 examinations were made.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE COMMITTEE.

MEDICAL ADVISER FOR TUBERCULOSIS :

Dr. W. G. Willoughby.

There were altogether 177 persons, 133 men and 44 women, in the charge of the Tuberculosis Sub-Committee during the year. Of these, 4 persons had not Tuberculosis and 6 others were doubtful cases.

Owing to the increased number of ex-service men who applied for assistance, and to the increased knowledge of such cases, there was a much greater number to be dealt with at the close of 1920 than at the beginning of the year. The subjoined table shows this.

	January, 1920.		January, 1921.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Domiciliary Cases ...	40	18	84	24
Institutional Cases ...	17	6	16	9
	—	—	—	—
	57	24	100	33
	81		133	

Of the 108 Domiciliary cases at the end of the year, 51 were at work.

The disease was fatal in 15 of the total 177 patients, viz., 10 of the 133 men and 5 of the 44 women. This is a fatality of but 8.5%.

The forms of treatment received by these 177 insured or ex-service persons were as follows :—

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Domiciliary ...	125	36	161
Institutional ...	57	31	88

Eight men and eight women who had Institutional treatment were not on the domiciliary list during 1920.

The Institutions receiving insured patients were as follows :—

			Men.	Women.	Total.
Gildredge Hospital	...	...	37	23	60
Nayland Training Colony	...	...	3	—	3
Nayland Sanatorium	...	...	11	2	13
Brompton Hospital	...	...	—	2	2
Mount Vernon Hospital	...	...	—	1	1
Eversfield Hospital...	...	...	—	1	1
Papworth Hall Training Colony	...	...	1	—	1
Shropshire Hospital	...	...	1	—	1
Brighton Sanatorium	...	...	1	—	1
East Sussex Agric. College	...	...	1	—	1
Princess Alice Memorial Hospital			2	1	3
Guardians' Institution	...	...	—	1	1
			—	—	—
Total	...	...	57	31	88
			—	—	—

Of these 88 patients, 15 had been in two Institutions, thus 73 persons (46 men and 27 women) received Institutional treatment.

Dispensary cases are included as Domiciliary.

Mr. A. J. Bartlett, Clerk to the National Health Insurance Committee had the administrative work of these 177 persons to carry out, and in the rapidity and thoroughness of the care of Insured Tuberculous persons as far as funds and regulations permitted, Eastbourne stood most favourably in comparison with other Districts.

BRIGHTON CENTRAL PENSIONS COMMITTEE.

The Medical Officer of Health, as Tuberculosis Officer, is Medical Referee for Tuberculosis Cases in this Area. The Deputy-Commissioner of Medical Services sent 159 persons (all men, except 2) to be examined during the year. These were examined on Monday mornings by the Medical Officer of Health and reports sent to the D.C.M.S.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

TOWN HALL.

Males : Mondays, 11 a.m. ; Medical Officer, Dr. W. G. Willoughby. Females : Thursdays, 11.30 a.m. Special Evening, first Thursdays at 6 p.m., Medical Officer, Dr. W. Muir-Smith.

ATTENDANCES AT DISPENSARY—ADULTS.

		New Cases.	Old Cases.	Total.
Insured Men	...	123	82	205
Insured Women	...	25	9	34
Uninsured Men	...	2	1	3
Uninsured Women		5	18	23

Number of Attendances at Dispensary, Men, 539 ; Women, 461 ; total, 1,000.

From the Pensions Authorities in Brighton, 159 service cases, including 10 officers and 2 nurses, were sent for examination. 21 attended twice and 3 attended three times. All were Eastbourne cases.

CHILDREN'S TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.

THURSDAY, 2.30 p.m.

MEDICAL OFFICER : DR. H. E. COGHILL.

Attendances, 263 of 92 children. Old cases, 40 ; new cases, 52.

Suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 5, and from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 16. (T.B. Glands, 4 ; T.B. Hip, 4 ; Abd. T.B., 4 ; T.B. Ankle, 1 ; Spine, 1 ; Knee, 1 ; and Finger, 1). The remainder were contacts and for examination.

NURSES' VISITS, Etc.

Visits to Domiciliary cases, 275.

GILDREDGE HOSPITAL FOR TUBERCULOSIS,
24 BEDS.

Supervisor, the Medical Officer of Health ; Medical Attendant, Dr. W. Muir-Smith ; Matron, Miss A. Strugnell.

STATISTICS, 1920.

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In Hospital at end of 1919	10	7	1	18
Admitted, 1920	39	29	4	72
Died	6	6	1	13
Discharged	32	20	2	54
In Hospital at end of 1920	11	10	2	23

PATIENTS ADMITTED.

Insured Men	34
Insured Women	20
Uninsured Men	5
Uninsured Women	9
Children—Boys	—
Children—Girls	4
	—
	72
	—
Ex-service Men (included above)	30

RESULTS (DISCHARGED CASES).

Improved	26
Returned to Work	8
Self Discharged	6
Sent to Sanatoria	12
Sent to Guardians' Institution ...	1
Unknown	1
	—
	54
	—

DEATHS.

Insured Men	4
Insured Women	9
Uninsured Men	2
Uninsured Women	1
Children—Girls	1
	—
	13
	—
Ex-service Men (included above)	4

From April 1st, 1920, to March 31st, 1921, this Hospital cost £4 per patient per week or, exclusive of capital charges, £3 14s. 4d.

EASTBOURNE VOLUNTARY CARE COMMITTEE.

The Committee, which has issued its separate report, expended £133 16s. 7d. on behalf of consumptives during 1920. The chief item of this expenditure was food, principally milk and eggs, and this amount also included £22 7s. 1d., expended for boarding out.

Thirty cases were dealt with by the Committee, including 2 men, 15 women and 13 children. The uninsured benefit principally by the work.

The Committee is a comprehensive one and includes representatives of the various bodies which have to do with Tuberculous persons, thus preventing any overlapping of assistance. It also assisted in other ways in many other cases.

The objects of the Committee are :—

1. To see that persons suffering from Tuberculosis are receiving proper, but not overlapping, attention.
2. To guide them in seeking the agencies from which they can best obtain relief.
3. To visit the patients and co-operate with other agencies in supplying necessary assistance.
4. To help in preventive work, especially with children.
5. To assist in after-care.

INSTITUTIONS FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

The Authority has its own hospital of 24 beds, particulars of which have been given.

A list of other Hospitals and of Sanatoria to which patients have been sent is subjoined. Nayland Sanatorium kindly makes a point of receiving our patients if possible, and Wyton Sanatorium kindly takes children for us. In the other cases we have to take our chance.

EASTBOURNE CASES SENT TO SANATORIA.

Sanatorium.	No. beginning of year.		Sent during year.		Discharged during year.		Still there.		Died.	
	In-sured.	Not In'sd.	In-sured.	Not In'sd.	In-sured.	Not In'sd.	In-sured.	Not In'sd.	In-sured.	Not In'sd.
Nayland	M3	—	F2 M7	—	F1 M9	—	F1 M1	—	—	—
East Anglian Children's ..	—	F1	—	F1 M1	—	F1 M1	—	F1	—	—
Cedar House Training Colony, Nayland	M1	—	M1	—	M1	—	M1	—	—	—
St. Vincent's Cripples' Home, Pinner	—	M4	—	—	—	M1	—	M2	—	M1
Brompton Hospital, S.W. ..	F1	—	—	—	F1	—	—	—	—	—
Brompton Hospital, Frimley ..	F1	—	—	—	F1	—	—	—	—	—
Royal National Hospital, Ventnor	—	F1	—	—	—	F1	—	—	—	—
Royal National Orthopædic Hospital	—	F1	—	—	—	F1	—	—	—	—
St. Columbia's Hospital, Swiss Cottage	—	—	F1	—	—	—	—	—	F1	—
Wyton, Huntingdon	—	—	—	M1 F1	—	—	—	M1 F1	—	—
Holy Cross, Haslemere, Surrey ..	—	—	—	F1	—	—	—	F1	—	—
Mount Vernon, Hospital for Consumptives	—	—	F1	—	—	—	F1	—	—	—
Royal West Kent Hospital, Maidstone	—	—	—	F1	—	F1	—	—	—	—
All Saint's Convalescent Hospital, Eastbourne	—	—	—	F1	—	—	—	F1	—	—
Eversfield Chest Hospital, St. Leonards-on-Sea	—	—	F1	—	—	—	F1	—	—	—
Papworth Hall T.B. Colony, Cambridge	—	—	M1	—	—	—	M1	—	—	—

GENERAL PARTICULARS.

In accordance with the Circular of the Ministry as to reports, I submit the following :—

The work is carried on in close co-operation with the other Hospitals and with the clinics.

The Dispensary at the Town Hall is the centre from which the work is carried on.

Arrangements are made whereby the Tuberculosis Officer receives quarterly medical reports as to insured tuberculous persons. These are often difficult to obtain up to time.

The following up of doubtful cases is done by the Medical Officers and the Nurse, and contacts are examined at the Dispensary and in the Clinics.

Diagnosis is aided in some cases by the X-Rays by Dr. Harwood-Hardman. Dr. Donnellan assists occasionally in difficult throat cases.

Dr. Muir Smith has extensively used Tuberculin Treatment in selected cases, and is well satisfied with his results. The general results as shown by the comparatively small number of deaths are very satisfactory.

The local Hospital results are good, where the cases have been taken in time.

Dental treatment at the local hospital is kindly carried out by Mr. Turner.

Extra nourishment at home has been provided in some cases from two sources :—

1. The National Health Insurance Committee.
2. The Tuberculosis Care Committee.

The arrangements for treating Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis are not satisfactory. For these cases the lack of institutional accommodation has been much felt. Tentative proposals have been made for a Joint Sussex arrangement for such cases, but so far have not materialised.

The local Surgical Aid Society has been of very great

assistance in helping to provide surgical apparatus. There has been no difficulty in this respect.

The arrangements for care and after-care are the work of the Tuberculosis Care Committee described above. The want of suitable occupation for cases is badly felt locally, as well as generally. Four patients have been sent to training colonies, but only in one case with much success. The general imperfection in the respect of after-care of the schemes of the Country generally is reflected in Eastbourne, but palliated especially in the case of children by the work of the Committee mentioned. The same applies to the finding of employment.

No home shelters have been applied for. No special occupation locally is concerned with the incidence of Tuberculosis.

It is hoped that the Open-Air School will act as a useful preventive of Tuberculosis.

The only special difficulties encountered are the want of satisfactory housing accommodation in some of the cases, and the want of beds for surgical tuberculosis.

It is certain that year by year there are at least three times as many cases occurring, as there are deaths, and it is evident therefore that at least two-thirds of the cases are recovering, or, at all events, their deaths are not being ascribed to Tuberculosis.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The following is a summary of the activities of the department.

The Statutory Committee is a Sub-Committee of the Sanitary Committee and is composed of six members of that Committee, another Alderman of the Council and three co-opted ladies.

The Centre at which all the work is co-ordinated is at the Town Hall.

(a) A Mothers' and Infants' Clinic is held at the Town Hall at 2 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Dr. H. E. Coghill was appointed Assistant Medical Officer of Health and to the charge of the Clinic on January 6th, 1920.

Miss R. Clark is the Superintendent Nurse.

The work at the Clinic includes advice to mothers, and attention to minor ailments of infants for which ordinary medical attention is rarely, if ever, obtained. The work is mainly preventive, and infraction of the work of medical practitioners is avoided. Short lectures are given, and demonstrations in such matters as washing and dressing infants. Light refreshments are given by some ladies kindly interested in the Clinic. The infants are regularly weighed, and advice is given on feeding of both infants and mothers.

The attendances at the Clinic in 1920 were 3,825 of 790 children, 568 under two years of age and 222 aged three and four years ; 230 mothers attended for advice.

The attendances were 1,672 and the children 269 in excess of those of 1919.

The staff at the Clinic includes the Superintendent Nurse, Miss R. Clark, and Nurses I. Simmons, Thurgood and Curtis. These nurses are also engaged in home visiting.

- (b) HOME VISITING.—The Borough is divided for this purpose into three districts, each having its own Nurse Visitor. The visits paid numbered 5,813, and were as follows:—to expectant mothers, 350; to infants under one year, 3,490; and to children aged one to five years, 1,973. Nearly 100% of the births were notified to the Medical Officer of Health in 1920. In 787 of the births, or 79.3 per cent., visits were made.
- (c) AN ANTENATAL CLINIC is held at the Town Hall on Wednesdays and Fridays, at 2 p.m., in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic. Special cases are seen at the Maternity Home on alternate Wednesdays at 5.30 p.m., and as occasion requires.

Expectant mothers can attend the ordinary Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic if they wish, and those who intend to go into the Maternity Home invariably see the Matron or Medical Officer some months before labour is due.

Number of expectant mothers attending	129
Number of Primiparæ	45
Number of Multiparæ	84
Number of attendances	236

Practically all were normal cases requiring only information on minor matters.

There were two cases of contracted pelvis.

- (d) FOOD is distributed in the form of dried or new milk for nursing mothers and young children.

The carrying out of the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1918, entailed much more work than in previous years. Great care had to be exercised to be sure that necessitous cases got the milk and that, on the other hand, none was given in unnecessary cases. 158 families received milk in the following manner, some families having milk for two of the reasons set out:—

Expectant mothers	...	...	...	15
Nursing mothers	...	...	...	68
Infants	...	...	...	83
Children 2-5 years	...	...	...	14
Boarded-out infants	...	...	...	3

				183

Amount allowed—

Pint	...	...	...	124
Pint and half	...	...	...	14
Two pints	...	...	...	16
Two-and-a-half pints			...	1
Three pints	...	...	...	2
Four pints	...	...	...	1

Average length of time allowed, 21.9 weeks.

Number receiving free—

Expectant mothers	...	...	...	14
Nursing mothers	...	...	...	64
Infants	...	...	...	76
Children 2-5 years	...	...	...	9
Boarded-out infants	...	...	...	3

				166

Number receiving partly free	...	...	17

			183

Dried Milk—

Number receiving—Infants	...	...	153
Number paying full cost price		...	125
Number paying nil	...	...	28

Dried milks used—Glaxo, Ambrosia, Cow and Gate.

- (e) BOARDING-OUT.—Five infants, all illegitimate, were boarded-out during 1920, four of them outside the Borough. The charge was 10/- weekly and the milk, but in four cases the mothers contributed 5/- per week and in one case 7/6 per week.

Six cases, five illegitimate, were assisted in their own homes, two as "boarders," and five, four illegitimate, sent to the Creche.

- (f) UNMARRIED MOTHERS.—Temporary homes were provided for nine of these cases. Of the three who were in Institutions on 1st January, two have left the Institution, leaving one still there.

The Bell Hostel was opened on 7th April, 1920. Six cases have been sent there at the expense of the Authority during the year, five being still in the Hostel on December 31st.

The charges were as follows :—25/- per week until the mother went to work, then 20/- per week. Payment was also made for milk.

In 12 cases the mother was assisted to remain in her own home, *i.e.*, boarded-out there in a sense, and five were assisted as regards the Creche.

A voluntary home is now provided in Eastbourne for unmarried mothers, and a small Committee was formed in 1920 linking the work of the Home, the Guardians and this Authority so as to give a guiding hand to such cases from "confinement" onwards.

- (g) A MATERNITY HOME has been provided for confinements of married women at 9 Upperton Road and was opened on March 10th, 1920.
- (h) AN INFANTS' HOME has been provided in the same premises as the above. In this home ailing infants without definite disease, infants permanently or temporarily deprived of a home with their own parents, and infants suffering from prematurity, malnutrition, etc., are received.

The reports for 1920 as to these follow herewith :—

COUNTY BOROUGH OF EASTBOURNE.

MATERNITY HOME. MATERNITY CASES.

Year ending 31st December, 1920.

Home opened on 10th March, 1920.

1. Total number of cases admitted, 75.

(NOTE.—Two of these cases were transferred before labour, one for rash (? syphilis) and one for hæmorrhage, which recovered).

2. Average duration of stay, 15 days.

3. Number of cases delivered by midwives, 31.

4. Number of cases delivered by doctors, 42.

5. Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by the midwife, with reasons for requiring assistance :—

(a) *Ante Natal*—

Rash	1
--------------	---

(b) *During Labour*—

Premature labour	1
Adherent placenta	1
Uterine inertia	2
Threatened inertia	1
Obstructed labour	1
After coming head	1
Hip presentation	1
Rigid os	1
	— 9

(c) *After Labour*—

Post partum hæmorrhage	1
Rise of temperature	1
Torn perineum	1
	— 3

(d) *For Infant* 2

15

6. Number of cases notified as puerperal sepsis, with result of treatment in each case, Nil.

7. Number of cases with rise of temperature above 100.4 for 24 hours, with rise of pulse rate, 1 (Influenza).

8. Number of cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum, with result of treatment in each case, Nil.

9. Number of cases of "inflammation of the eyes, however slight," Nil.

10. Number of infants not entirely breast fed while in the Home, with the reasons why they were not breast fed :—

Insufficient milk	..	..	..	..	4
Deformed nipples	..	..	..	..	2
Mother suffering from eclampsia	..	..	..	..	1
					—
					7
					—

11. Number of maternal deaths, with causes, Nil.

12. Number of fetal deaths (still-born or within 10 days of birth) and their causes, and the results of the post-mortem examination if obtainable :—

Prematurity	..	..	..	..	2
Still-born	..	..	..	..	1
Meningo-Myelocoele	..	..	..	..	1
					—
					4
					—

Number of cases remaining in Home at end of December, 7.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF EASTBOURNE.

INFANT'S HOME.

Year ending 31st December, 1920.

Home opened on 10th March, 1920.

1. Number of cases admitted, 115.
2. Average duration of stay, 26 days.
3. Reasons for admission, giving the number of cases under each heading :—

Born in the Home	..	..	..	..	73
Malnutrition	..	..	..	..	3
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	1
Gastro Enteritis	..	..	..	..	4
Heart Failure	..	..	..	..	1
Boarded-out	..	..	..	..	22
Phimosis	..	..	..	..	1
Umbilical hernia	..	..	..	..	1
Inguinal hernia	..	..	..	..	1
Tubercular peritonitis	..	..	..	..	2
Hydrocephalus	..	..	..	..	1
Vomiting (for observation)	..	..	..	..	2
Injury at birth	..	..	..	..	1
Gastritis	..	..	..	..	1
Marasmus	..	..	..	..	1
					—
					115
					—

4. Number of cases discharged :—

(a) In good health	..	..	..	..	78
(b) Improved	..	..	..	..	3
(c) No improvement	..	..	..	..	0
					<hr/> 81

5. Number of cases of infectious disease, with a brief account of any epidemic which has occurred :—

(a) Measles	..	..	..	..	0
(b) Whooping Cough (case admitted without warning)	..	..	..	..	4
(c) Epidemic Diarrhœa	..	..	..	..	0
(d) Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	1
					<hr/> 5

6. Number of deaths, giving date and cause of death and period of residence in each case :—

Date.	Cause.	Period of Residence.	
1920.			
25th Mar.	Heart failure (prematurity)	.. 1 day	} Admitted Infants.
16th May	Enteritis (probably T.B.)	38 days	
24th July	Hydrocephalus	.. 10 days	
21st Sep.	Marasmus	.. 55 days	
29th Oct.	Intussusception	.. 2 days	
17th Dec.	Marasmus	.. 12 days	} Infants born in Home.
10th July	Prematurity	.. 1 day	
30th Aug.	Prematurity	.. 1 day	
8th Sep.	Meningo myelocoele	.. 3 days	
22nd Sep.	Still-born	.. -	

7. Number discharged on account of illness, with the nature of the illness, infectious or otherwise, and the result of treatment elsewhere, where known :—

	Recovery.
Whooping Cough	.. 4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.. 1
For operation for Hernia	.. 2
	<hr/> 7

SUMMARY.

Cases admitted	..	..	..	..	115
Cases discharged	..	..	..	..	81
Deaths	..	..	..	..	10
Discharged for illness	..	..	..	..	7
					<hr/> 98
Remaining in Home on 31st December, 1920	..	..	..	..	17*

*(NOTE.—Seven of these are babies born in the Home and ten admitted babies).

- (i) MUNICIPAL MIDWIFE.—During 1920 this nurse has attended 54 confinements. Her charge is 25/-. Full payment was made in 49 cases. Her report is as follows :—

Number of cases attended	...	...	54
Number paying full charge	...	...	49
Number paying part charge	...	...	5
Number paying nil	...	...	—
Number legitimate	...	...	49
Number illegitimate	...	...	5
Number of mothers still alive	...	...	All
Number of infants still alive	...	...	49

One still-born ; one, premature, lived one day ; three other babies died.

- (j) MIDWIVES ACT, 1902.—There were eight registered midwives in 1920 (three untrained), of whom two were practising in Institutions. Only four did regular practice outside Institutions. They are visited by the Superintendent Nurse, herself qualified as a midwife, and by the Medical Officers when necessary.

Midwives attended 269 births, or 27.4 per cent. of the total during 1920.

Medical assistance was sought by midwives in 30 cases during 1920, viz., for the mother 21 cases, and for the baby 9 cases.

Notice of laying out of dead bodies by midwives was received in two cases.

There were no complaints against midwives during the year.

There was one case of mild Puerperal Fever in a midwife's practice. She was most careful, and no blame could be attached to her.

- (k) HOME HELP.—Mrs. Hicks was appointed Home Help in October, 1919, and attended 41 cases during the year, viz., 17 homes for household duties, and 24 homes for ordinary relief work (for expectant

or nursing mothers or during illness of children). Her salary is 30/- per week. Very useful work has been accomplished.

- (l) HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—*The Borough Hospital provides accommodation for Puerperal Fever, Ophthalmia, Measles and other infectious ailments.

The Princess Alice Memorial Hospital provides for abnormal confinements.

*The Maternity Home at 9 Upperton Road provides for normal confinements.

*The Babies' Home at the same address provides for babies with certain ailments, such as malnutrition, which can only with difficulty and imperfectly be dealt with in the homes.

The Bell Hostel, Salehurst Road, provides for unmarried mothers and their infants.

In 1920 payments were made for five of these cases by the Authority besides three others in the Hove Institution.

* Municipal Hospitals.

- (m) CRECHE.—The Christ Church Creche in Rylstone Road for 16 children is subsidised by the Local Authority up to £300 per annum. The Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Medical Officer of Health are the medical visitors.

- (n) DENTAL WORK.—Mothers (prospective and actual) are now being assisted as regards dental work and dentures. The following dental assistance was given in 1920 :—

Mothers receiving dentures	...	...	8
Mothers paying part cost	...	...	7
Mothers receiving denture free	...	...	1

- (o) STAFF.—Three part-time nurses, who also assist in school medical work, and one whole-time midwife-nurse.

The clerical work is carried out in the Medical Officer of Health's Department.

- (*p*) OPTHALMIA.—Eleven cases, all in legitimate children. No blindness. See “Infectious Diseases.”
- (*q*) VOLUNTARY WORK.—The Creche is managed by a Voluntary Committee. Miss Chamberlain kindly assists very greatly in practical assistance at the Clinics by assisting in social enquiries and help, and by helping to provide light refreshments for the mothers.
- (*r*) FINANCE.—The total cost of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department for the year ending March 31st, 1921, was £6,003. This does not allow for the Exchequer grant, which it is hoped will reduce the nett cost to 50% of the above.
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With this section should be read the Infant Mortality part of the Report.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

The staff of three Inspectors has been available throughout the year, but at the beginning of the year the time of Messrs. Spears and Ollett has been partly occupied by duties under the Food Control Committee. Mr. S. T. Alderton has been appointed Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

The Sanitary Inspection work is detailed in another part of this Report ; a summary of the work as regards Factories and Workshops has also been given.

So much of the work is incidental and so difficult to tabulate that it is not possible to give more than a general idea by the various tables I have given.

Among the duties of the Clerks have been the following :

Calls and Communications received and entered	...	4651
Letters and Reports written	... ..	2861
Entries made in Register of Defects and Nuisances	...	518
Notices issued	... ..	827
Entries made in Register of Samples taken	...	228
Returns of Inspectors' Work made to Committee	...	12
Entries made in "Report Book" on Infectious Cases	...	270
Monthly Returns on the Health of Eastbourne to Members of Sanitary Committee and others	...	204
Sanitary Certificates Issued	... ..	12
Sanitary Certificates Endorsed	... ..	31
Entries made in Register of Unsound Food	...	325
Entries made in Register of Letters requesting Amend- ments	... ..	18
Samples of Eastbourne Water taken for Analysis by Public Analyst	... ..	6
Samples of Water taken for Analysis by Medical Officer		52
Cleansing Certificates given	... ..	30
Passes for visiting Sanatorium (grounds only)	...	207

HOSPITALS.

1. MUNICIPAL.

The Hospitals under the Authority are as follows :—

1. Isolation Hospital (Sanatorium), 62 beds for infectious ailments in seven blocks of 14, 14, 12, 7, 7, 4 and 4 beds respectively. The table on page 35 shows to what extensive use this Hospital is put.
2. Small Pox Hospital, 18 beds, not used since 1902.
3. Acacia Villa for isolation during disinfection of houses, 6 beds.

The Medical Officer of Health is personally the Medical Officer of these Hospitals.

4. Tuberculosis Hospital, 24 beds, 12 for Males and 12 for Females ; Medical Officer : Dr. W. Muir Smith.
5. Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital (opened March 10th, 1920), 6 maternity beds, 18 children's beds ; Medical Officer : Dr. H. E. Coghill.

The Medical Officer of Health retains the administration of these Hospitals under the Sanitary Committee.

Their use has been already described in the Report.

2. OTHERS.

1. Princess Alice Memorial Hospital—General—70 beds.
2. Leaf Hospital (Homœopathic), 15 beds, and out-patients.
3. Ophthalmic Hospital, 6 beds, and out-patients.
4. All Saint's Convalescent Home.
5. Ear, Throat and Nose Hospital.
6. Guardians' Institution (Infirmary).

The amount of Poor Law Relief expended for the year ending September 30th, 1920, was £5,494 4s. 0d.

BATHS.

SEASIDE BATHS.

These were opened in 1903. There are six baths for men and six for women.

The numbers using them in 1920 were: men, 18,759; women, 14,487; children, 685; total, 33,931, an increase of 373 over 1919.

The largest number using the baths in one year was 34,600, in 1918. This number included many service men and women. The largest pre-war number was 18,982 in 1913.

The demand for baths has led to much waiting on Fridays and Saturdays.

OLD TOWN BATHS.

These were opened in 1905. There are 12 baths for men and 3 for women.

The swimming bath is 60ft. long by 20ft. wide, and varies in depth from 3ft. 6in. to 6ft. 6in.

Owing to coal difficulties it has been impossible to keep the baths continuously open.

Number of swimming bathes :—

Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
5997	2360	4586	3595	16538

Season tickets and sale of book tickets increased these numbers to 22,892.

The largest number was 18,204 in 1911.

Number of ordinary baths :—

Twelve for men; three for women.

Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
12081	6577	715	19373

The largest number previously was 14,150 in 1919.

During 1920 40 boys and 45 girls of the Elementary Schools who had learned to swim during the year received certificates.

The cost of the baths was as follows for the year ending March 31st, 1921 :—

	Income.	Expenditure.	Deficit.	Capital Charges (in addition).
Seaside	£590	£991	£401	£63
Old Town	£800	£1,478	£678	£252

THE LOCAL ACTS AND ADOPTIVE ACTS

In force in the district are as follows :—

Eastbourne Improvement Acts, 1879 and 1885.

Eastbourne Corporation Acts, 1902 and 1911.

ADOPTED ACTS.

Baths and Wash-houses Acts, 1846 to 1889.

Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, sections 1 to 4, 6, 7, 9, 12 to 16, and 18 to 24.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Parts I., II., III. and V.

Public Libraries Act, 1892.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, sections 17, 21, 22, 27 (temporary buildings for territorial force excepted), 28 and 33 of Part II., sections 35 (subject to first proviso to s. 92 of Public Health Act, 1875), 36, 37, and 46 of Part III., sections 52, 54, 55, 57, 58, 59 (except as to libraries outside the district), 60, 62, 63, 64, 65 and 68 of Part IV., Part V., Part VII., secs. 81, 85 and 86, of Part IX., and secs. 94 and 95 of Part X.

These are for the most part administered by the Sanitary Authority through the Public Health Department.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

The tables on page 34 show the work done in 1920.

The Borough Analyst in 1920 was Dr. S. Allinson Woodhead.

Chemical and Bacteriological examinations of water were made by the Borough Analyst, and alternately by the Water Company's Analyst, Mr. Burgess.

Ordinary Diphtheria and Tubercle Bacteriology is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health with the aid of the Assistant Medical Officer of Health. More advanced Bacteriology is sent to the Clinical Research Association.

Wassermann examinations were made at the London Hospital, E., and the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Special Officer : Mr. E. G. SPEARS, Sanitary Inspector.

During the past year, 64 rat infested premises have been visited, advice given, and in a number of instances poison bait has been supplied.

In certain cases numerous re-visits have been necessary, but in the majority of cases, the premises are now free from rat infestation.

In addition, large quantities of poison bait (arsenic and phosphorus) have been periodically laid in the sewers with satisfactory results.

The National Rat Week held in November was duly observed, but continuous warfare is necessary.

Action has also been taken in connection with mice infested premises.

HOUSING.

1. GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS.

At the Census of 1911, there were 8,967 inhabited houses in Eastbourne, and 382 uninhabited, total 9,349. The percentage unoccupied was about four.

The yearly average of houses built for the five years before the War was 103, and for the preceding five years, 132.

At the end of 1919, the estimated number of houses was 9,744, and only a few large ones were unoccupied. There were no certificates issued for completed houses in 1919.

In addition to the 9,744 above mentioned, there were at the end of the year 138 separate tenements occupied in the military huts at Victoria Drive converted into dwellings for civilians.

During 1920 certificates were issued for occupation of 22 new houses built in usual circumstances, and in addition 58 municipal houses were completed.

Apart from 138 hut tenements, there are approximately now 9,824 dwelling houses in Eastbourne.

The number of persons per house at the last Census was 5.8. This high number is due to the many schools and hotels.

According to the Registrar General we have approximately 2,000 less people than at the Census, 1911. When one considers the housing difficulties this is clearly an error, for on such an estimated population we should have empty houses to spare, and require no extra building scheme. When the new Census figures are available more exact estimates will be possible as to the shortage of houses.

In the meantime, beyond the present scheme of municipal building, 150 houses are definitely required.

The conditions of housing of the 643 applicants for municipal houses are shown in the following table :—

HOUSING APPLICATIONS.

(a) APPLICANTS LIVING IN THE HUTMENTS :—

Having 6 children	...	...	...	1	(1)
Having 5 children	...	...	...	3	(3)
Having 4 children	...	...	...	8	(6)
Having 3 children	...	...	...	17	(14)
Having 2 children	...	...	...	38	(23)
Having 1 child	...	...	...	25	(0)
Having no children	...	...	...	8	(0)

Total 100

(b) APPLICANTS LIVING IN OTHER PARTS OF THE TOWN:—

Children.	Rooms.						Total.
	6.	5.	4.	3.	2.	1.	
6 or over ..	2 (1)	—	4 (2)	3 (1)	1 (1)	—	10
5	—	—	—	4 (1)	—	—	4
4	—	1	1	3	6 (5)	1 (1)	12
3	—	—	4	11	19 (1)	8 (4)	42
2	—	—	6	9	35 (4)	40 (13)	90
1	—	—	2	6	55	85	148
	2	1	17	36	116	134	306

(NOTE.—The figures in brackets denote the number of applicants who have either been already allotted houses or selected for houses in the near future.)

Applicants having no children	...	...	...	143
Applicants at present occupying a whole house	...	...	...	76
Applicants residing away from Eastbourne	...	...	...	18
Total number of applications received	...	...	...	643

The measures taken by the Authority included a temporary and a permanent scheme.

(a) TEMPORARY.

Provision of hut tenements in a vacated Army camp. The first of these was occupied on May 26th, 1919. The

highest number was 170 tenements. Some had to be from time to time removed for the progress of the permanent scheme on the same site.

At the end of 1920 the figures were as follows :—

Families living in huts	...	...	...	138
Population	...	...	...	562
Children	...	...	...	267
Children of school age	...	...	...	148

Nearly all the huts are divided into two tenements of 2, 3 or 4 rooms.

(b) PERMANENT.

The first part of the Municipal building scheme provided for 110 houses at the Archery and 68 houses at Victoria Drive. At the end of 1920 24 were let at the Archery and 34 at Victoria Drive. The remainder are nearly completed, and all will be in occupation by the middle of 1921.

The first of the municipal houses was occupied on 9th August, 1920.

Any future extension will be at Victoria Drive. Financial difficulties are holding up the suggested extension.

The non-parlour houses (28 at Victoria Drive and 46 at the Archery) were let at a rental of 14/8 per week. The parlour houses, 40 and 64 respectively, were let at 18/2. Any additional rates will have to be added to the rents and also a percentage—probably 10%—increase.

2. OVER-CROWDING.

The provision of huts enabled the Department to deal with the worst cases of over-crowding. Others exist which cannot be dealt with satisfactorily. There were no cases of prosecution. Some re-arrangements of habitation were carried out at the suggestion of the Sanitary Inspectors.

3. FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The general standard of housing is good, structurally. Materials and labour having been available, repairs are going on and houses kept up to a habitable condition.

The general character of defects is want of repair, often dampness, and painting and decoration mainly,

for the Inspectors have managed to get serious nuisances remedied for the most part.

Owners are as a rule alive to their responsibilities. There has been one case of appeal to the Ministry of Health by an owner. The action of the Authority was confirmed.

The list of notices issued indicates the extent of the housing work of the Sanitary Staff.

4. UNHEALTHY AREA.

No action can be taken as regards this area of 13 houses until accommodation is available elsewhere. The approximate population is 52. The area includes Southwark Cottages and 242-250 Seaside.

The number of persons inhabiting the 16 houses which cannot be made fit was 72.

So far, the new houses have been required for urgent individual cases.

5. BYE-LAWS.

There has been no difficulty with regard to these.

6. APPENDICES.

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which complaints were made by householders that they are unfit for human habitation, nil.
2. Section 17, Housing Act, 1909 :—
 - (a) Number of houses inspected—None specially under the Act, but nearly all those in the Borough generally.
 - (b) Number considered unfit for human habitation—28.
 - (c) Number remedied without closing orders—All those remedied as shown in the Inspectors' Reports.
3. Section 28, Housing Act, 1919—Nil.
4. Closing Orders—Nil.
5. Demolition Orders—Nil.
6. Number of houses demolished voluntarily—Nil.
7. Obstructive buildings dealt with—Nil.

The Sanitary Inspectors carry out the housing duties in regard to existing houses, under the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Committee.

APPENDIX.—CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING YEAR 1920 (Nett Deaths).

Causes of Death.		Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents," whether occurring in or beyond the district.						
1		All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Measles	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	3	—	2	—	—	—	1
Epidemic Influenza	...	19	1	2	1	—	11	4
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	...	3	2	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	31	—	—	1	5	22	3
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	7	2	1	—	2	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	76	—	—	—	—	26	50
Bronchitis	...	27	3	—	—	—	8	16
Pneumonia	...	17	3	—	—	—	7	7
Pleurisy	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver	...	3	—	—	1	—	1	1
Premature Birth	...	16	16	—	—	—	—	—
Accidents	...	17	1	—	2	2	6	6
Suicides	...	8	—	—	—	2	6	—
Total of above	...	230	28	6	7	11	88	90
All other causes	...	300	31	1	9	7	82	170
All causes	...	530	59	7	16	18	170	260